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PATENT APPLICATION Docket Number: CDS0223

AMENDMENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors:

Merrit N. Jacobs, et al.

Serial No.:

09/658,356

Filed:

September 11, 2000

Title:

Analyzer With Sample Quality

Measurement, And Method

Group Art Unit:

1743

Examiner:

Patricia K. Bex

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: 4-22-03

By:

Attorney for Applicants

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 3, 2003, regarding the patent application identified above, Applicants make the following election.

35 U.S.C. § 121:

Claims 1-15 are pending in the present application, and they are subject to a restriction requirement.

The Examiner objected that the present application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct groups of the claimed invention:

Group I

Claims 1 and 11

GROUP 1700

Group II

Claims 2-10 and 12-14

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Group III

Claim 15

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As requested for the purpose of prosecuting the present application, Applicants provisionally elect Group II, currently recited in Claims 2-10 and 12-14.

In addition, Applicants have added Claims 16-18, to recite the present invention in different detail.

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to allow the present invention.

Respectfully submitted, Attorney for Applicants

Date: April 22, 2003

Johnson & Johnson Law Department One Johnson & Johnson Plaza New Brunswick, New Jersey 08933 (786) 313-2922 1111

/Michael W. Montgomery Reg. No. 35,958

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